AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE **EXAMINING GROUP**

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Confirmation No.: 2977

JEFFREY W. MOEHLENBRUCK Group Art Unit: 1656

JOHN P. RANIERI

Examiner: Marsha M. Tsay Serial No.: 10/812,268

Attorney Docket: 2103.013882/RFE Filed: March 29, 2004

(SBI-064-DIV)

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR

TREATING INTERVERTEBRAL DISC

DEGENERATION CUSTOMER NO. 45488

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116; RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 17, 2007

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered in the captioned patent application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Applicants submit the foregoing amendments to place the case in even better condition for allowance or appeal.

This paper is submitted in response to the final Office Action dated September 17, 2007, for which the three-month date for response is December 17, 2007.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to this document, the Director is authorized to deduct said fees from Williams, Morgan & Amerson, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0786/2103.013882RE.

Reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested. The listing of the claims begins on page 3, and the remarks begin on page 6.